Joining of State capitals with major cities

†1741. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the project of joining capitals of different States and major cities with four lane National Highway under the National Highways Development Programme (NHDP);

(b) the fixed target of completion of third phase of this programme and by when it is likely to be completed; and

(c) the reasons for delay in completion of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The status of Natonal Highways Development Project (NHDP) as on 30.06.2006 is as under:

(in km.)

Project	Total	4-laned	Under Implementation	Balance for award
Golden Quadrilateral	5846	5409	437	—
North-South & East-West Corridors	7300*	830	5063	1306
Port Connectivity	380	110	249	21
Others	945	287	638	20
NHDP Phase IIIA	4000	30	1090	2880

* Original approved length. However this length has reduced to 7199 km. due to realignments during construction.

(b) The target date for completion of NHDP Phase III A is December, 2009.

(c) NHDP Phase IIIA is in progress as per the schedule.

Buckingham Canal Project

1742. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three waterways have been identified for declaration of National Waterways;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.